

Memo

To: RON HELGESON

From: ALAN R. MILLS

CC: JOHN COTTIER

Date: 12/06/99

Re: PROPOSED YUCCA MOUNTAIN REPOSITORY FOR SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL

Post-it® Fax Note 7671		Date 12/10/99	# of pages 2
To BRAD METTAM	From BILL COSTA		
Co./Dept. CALTRANS D-9 Trans	Co/ HQ IGR/CEQA		
Phone # 872-0659	Phone # 8-453-9689		
Fax # 8-627-0678	Fax # 8-453-1447		

The proposed Yucca Mountain site is located approximately 100 miles northwest of Las Vegas. It is estimated that 74,000 truck shipments of spend fuel and high-level nuclear waste will be traveling through California. These shipments could have a significant impact on California highways in those areas around the site. From a Maintenance viewpoint we need to review the area of the proposed trips for additional expenses that it will create for the Department and the Maintenance Program.

It will be important that the Federal Department of Energy supports the shipments with:

Financial support. (Proposed amounts of \$150,000 for the first year and \$75,000 for each year there after do not seem adequate for the number of shipments and the large area of concern.

Training for State and Local jurisdictions near shipment routes,

Route coordination with State and Local agencies.

Planning and preparedness sessions with State and Local jurisdictions.

Review of Accident and Terrorism responses and responsibilities.

Coordination and the supply of equipment for responses, tracking, record keeping and communications.

The sponsorship of financial supports training, equipment, materials, and coordination at least 3 years before the first shipment so that all of the involved agencies will be prepared.

A commitment to undertake a route identification process to actually select routes from each reactor/generator site to the repository site at least 3 years before anticipated shipments.

A prior commitment to routes with allow State and Local reviews for needs assessment on safety improvements to highways, signing, signals, emergency crews, their equipment and their required training.

Start forming a working committee of State and Local jurisdictions at least 5 years ahead of the first shipment to facilitate coordination, cooperation and communication.

The U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Energy have the responsibility to transport and dispose of the spent nuclear fuel waste to a Federal storage or disposal facility. In their responses to other states that have made comments on the Yucca Mountain Repository the DOE relies heavily on their 25 year history of safety successes to explain away more Federal support for State and Local agencies. While the DOE has an excellent record, we feel that it would be prudent to error on the side of caution and preparedness. By working closely with all the Agencies involved with this waste management program, it will build confidence and teamwork that will assure another 25 years of safety successes.

I am scheduled to attend a technical working group on this subject on December 14th from 9:00 am to 11:30 am with the State Department of Energy at 1516 Ninth St. Sacramento, CA in their second floor conference room.